

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Ryoji WATANABE et al.

Group Art Unit: 2625

Application No.: 10/647,208

Examiner: M. GETANEH

Filed: August 26, 2003

Docket No.: 116938

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

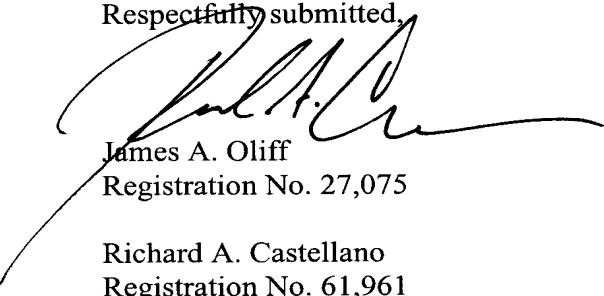
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action), but before payment of the Issue Fee. The fees associated with this filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) are being paid electronically with this filing. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 15-0461.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.  
37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- 2. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 3. One or more reference cited herein was cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 1 and 2.

- 4. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached. See References 1 and 2.
- 5. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1 and 2.
- 6. Reference JP-A-2000-285203 cited in the corresponding Office Action is **not** provided herewith as it was previously cited in the August 32, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:RAC/ssh

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